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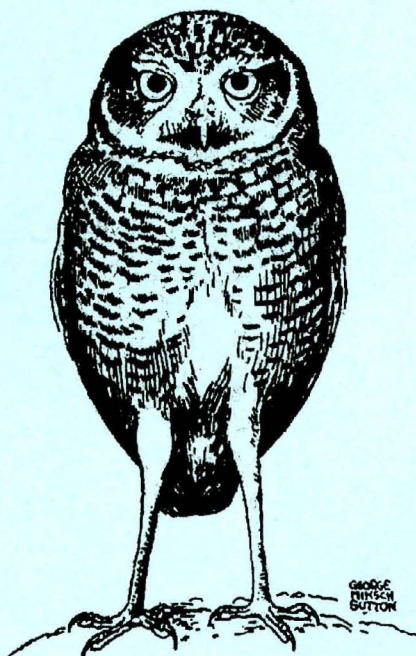
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# ***The Nebraska Bird Review***

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## SUMMER FIELD REPORT, June-July 2014

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## INTRODUCTION

This summer was marked by the “unremarkability”, if there is such a thing, of the status of almost all species, especially passerines. A stark exception, however, was the pair of summering hummingbirds in a yard a few miles southeast of Chadron: Juanita Whittecar sent a collection of very good photos of these birds, detailed enough to determine that the pair of supposed Ruby-throated Hummingbirds actually consisted of a female Ruby-throated and a hybrid Ruby-throated x Broad-tailed male. Another odd phenomenon was the number of shorebird species with late Jun records, usually the brief window within which these species are absent in Nebraska. Reasons for this presumed suspension of migration are conjectural. Happily, this blandness was offset by a remarkable array of genuine rarities: first state record Brown Booby, second Mottled Duck, third Wood Stork, and fourth (all 2012-2014) Black-chinned Hummingbird.

Sifting through the species accounts did, however, yield a few items of interest. Ospreys continue to attempt to breed at several locations but without success so far, Mississippi Kites continue to expand slowly in the west, a great photo came to hand of a Whip-poor-will nest with an egg and a chick, Pygmy Nuthatches expanded their range eastward, Cassin's Sparrows were far-flung, and the state's 13th Painted Bunting was found. A phenomenon not often recognized is the absence of certain common breeding passerine species from extreme southwest Nebraska, the driest part of the state. These include Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and Great-tailed Grackle.

Given the increasing use of eBird by many observers, it seemed it would be only a matter of time until eBird data would be included in these seasonal reports. Along with the large amount of data gleaned from NEBIRDS and the reports that a few determined reporters send me each season, for this report I checked sightings reported to eBird for all species. I found the data to be useful as a check on what was already on hand, and it enhanced many of the accounts significantly with additional information. Unfortunately, however, this added quite a bit of time to an already time-consuming process, but on balance I think the final result was better because of it.

## ABBREVIATIONS

ad: adult  
BBS: Breeding Bird Survey  
BOL: Branched Oak L, Lancaster Co  
Cem: Cemetery  
CLNWR: Crescent L NWR, Garden Co

Co(s): County(ies)

fem: female

FF: Fontenelle Forest, Sarpy Co

GPD: Gavins Point Dam, Knox and Cedar Cos

HCR: Harlan County Res, Harlan Co

ICSP: Indian Cave State Park, Richardson/Nemaha Cos

imm: immature

juv: juvenile

L: Lake

LBN: Lakes Babcock and North, Platte Co

LM: L McConaughy, Keith Co

LO: L Ogallala (includes contiguous Keystone L), Keith Co

m. ob.: many observers

NC: Nature Center

NF: National Forest

NM: National Monument

NNF: Nebraska National Forest

NWR: National Wildlife Refuge

PL: Pawnee L, Lancaster Co

PRSP: Platte River SP, Cass Co

Res: Reservoir

RWB: Rainwater Basin, including parts of Phelps, Hamilton, York, Clay, Fillmore,  
and Thayer Cos

SCP: Spring Creek Prairie, Denton

SL: Sewage Lagoon(s)

SP: State Park

WHNC: Wildcat Hills NC, Scotts Bluff Co

WMA: (State) Wildlife Management Area

WP: Wilderness Park, Lincoln

WPA: (Federal) Waterfowl Production Area

#### GAZETTEER

Harvard Marsh: Harvard WPA, Clay Co

Jack Sinn: Memorial WMA, Lancaster and Saunders Cos

Marsh Duck: WMA, York Co

Pine Ridge: escarpment in Sioux, Dawes, and Sheridan Cos

Sandhills: large area of sand-based prairie in north-central Nebraska

Tamora: WMA, Seward Co

Wildcat Hills: escarpment in Scotts Bluff, Banner, and Morrill Cos

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#### SPECIES ACCOUNTS

- Black-bellied Whistling-Duck:** Now virtually annual, two were photographed at HCR 25 Jul (fide JGJ); this is the 17th record for the state.
- Greater White-fronted Goose:** Perhaps the least likely of the geese to occur in summer, the only report was of one at Marsh Duck 22 Jun (JGJ).
- Snow Goose:** There were 8 reports of 1-2 birds, total 10 (m. ob.), mostly in the east, a normal summer scenario. One in Scotts Bluff Co 18 Jun (LE) was westerly.
- Ross's Goose:** Two at BOL 10 Jul (LE) was the only report; recent years have seen more reports as wintering numbers increase in Nebraska.
- Canada Goose:** This species is an uncommon, even rare, breeder in RWB wetlands (JGJ); a brood was at Marsh Duck 10 Jun (JGJ).
- Mute Swan:** A free-flying bird was in the area of a Kearney golf course for about a week through at least 11 Jun (LR, RH); its provenance is unknown.
- Trumpeter Swan:** The nesting pair at Ravenna, now in their 4th year, had 4 young 11 Jun but a hail storm 27 Jul killed the last surviving chick (LR, RH). It appears that no chicks have survived to fledging in the four years at this site.
- Wood Duck:** The 38 males at La Platte wetlands, Sarpy Co, 4 Jun (L&BP) might be an indicator of numerous breeding pairs in the area.

**Gadwall:** A fem in Valley Co 8 Jun (LR, RH) and 2 in the eastern RWB 10 Jun (JGJ) were likely breeders, although there have been few reports from either area in recent years.

**American Wigeon:** None were reported 2 Jun-22 Jul; one was in Thomas Co 23 Jul (KK), likely a local breeder or molt migrant. Molt migrants may appear in late Jul.

**Mallard:** Reports were routine of this common summer resident.

**Mottled Duck:** One was first seen at La Platte wetlands, Sarpy Co, 7 Jul and identified as this species 11 Jul (JR, L&BP); 2 were seen 11 Jul (JR, CNK), but all other sightings through 14 Jul were of a single bird (m. ob.). It probably left as the flooded fields dried rapidly. This is only the 2nd record for Nebraska, the first in 1958.



This Mottled Duck, Nebraska's second, was photographed by Michael Willison in southeast Sarpy County 12 Jul 2014.

**Blue-winged Teal:** Reports were routine for this locally common statewide summer resident.

**Cinnamon Teal:** None were reported of this uncommon western summer resident.

**Northern Shoveler:** Reports in Jun in the eastern RWB are likely breeders; 12 were counted there 10 Jun (JGJ), and 1-4 at wetlands in York, Seward, and Clay Cos through 29 Jun (SMa, TG, MW, JK) were of interest as they would have been very late if migrants; breeding is rare in the eastern RWB, with few actual records. Probably breeding locally was one in Johnson Co 14 Jul (SQ).

**Northern Pintail:** This species is an uncommon to rare breeder in the eastern RWB; 1-3 were at Marsh Duck 17-21 Jun (JGJ, RMa, LE) and 2 were at Tamora 29 Jun (MW).

**Green-winged Teal:** Molt migration begins early in this species, often in mid- to late Jun and usually males; 11 in the eastern RWB 10 Jun (JGJ) were perhaps a bit early to be molt migrants, but all were males. One at La Platte Bottoms,

Sarpy Co, 12 Jul (MW, JR) and 4-7 at Marsh Duck 17-21 Jun (RMa, LE, JR) were likely molt migrants.

**Canvasback:** One in York Co 21-22 Jun (LE, JGJ) was only the 4th summer record for the RWB.

**Redhead:** This species is rare in summer away from the Sandhills and RWB. Singles (likely the same bird) at Lincoln Saline Wetlands, Lancaster Co, 7 Jun and 8 Jul (MW) provided one of fewer than 10 summer records in the southeast.

**Ring-necked Duck:** Two were at CLNWR 18 Jun (JV), likely late migrants; this species is not known to have bred in Nebraska for around 100 years.

**Lesser Scaup:** A male and female were at La Platte Bottoms 3-9 Jul (CNK, ARy, L&BP) and a fem was in Douglas Co 17 Jun (SMA); the latter was likely a late migrant, but the La Platte birds may have been failed breeders, and only about the 15th summer report away from the Sandhills and RWB. Breeding is not currently known to occur in Nebraska.

**Hooded Merganser:** This species occurs in summer in small numbers, essentially all in imm plumage and non-breeders. There were 7 reports involving 12 birds (m. ob.), all from the east. Breeding is rarely documented.

**Common Merganser:** There appear to be 3 sites where this species occurs regularly in summer, likely year-old non-breeders or molt migrants. There were no reports from L Alice, Scotts Bluff Co, but 3 fems were on the Niobrara River near the Norden Bridge in Brown Co 22 Jun (MR), and the site with most reports, LO, had up to 10 through 18 Jun (LE, m. ob.). There is a single breeding record at the Norden Bridge site, in 2007. Most surprising was a male in a ditch in southeastern Washington Co 21 Jun (BP).

**Ruddy Duck:** A few non-breeding stragglers occur in summer, but are rare; a basic-plumaged male was in Douglas Co 17 Jun (SMA) and a fem was at Jack Sinn 10 Jul (LE). Breeding is rare away from the Sandhills and RWB.

**Northern Bobwhite:** Numbers decline northwestward, and so these 3 reports were of interest: 4 were in Thomas Co 18 Jun (MR), one in Garden Co just south of CLNWR (JV), and one at Steer Creek Campground, Cherry Co, 19 Jun (MR).

**Gray Partridge:** None were reported of this uncommon northeastern and north-central resident.

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** Reports were routine for this locally common statewide resident.

**Sharp-tailed Grouse:** Reports were routine for this fairly common northern and western grasslands resident.

**Greater Prairie Chicken:** Reports were routine for this locally common grassland resident.

**Wild Turkey:** Reports were routine of this common statewide resident.

**Common Loon:** Birds in alternate or near-alternate plumages were rather late in Cedar Co 1 Jun (DT) and at LO 2 Jun (TJW). An imm at LM 4 Jun (D&MM) and a single at Box Butte Res, Dawes Co, 4 Jun (RSg) may summer in the area, a fairly common occurrence for imms in the west.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** Reports were routine of this fairly common statewide summer resident, locally common Sandhills.



**Eared Grebe:** Two at Spikerush WMA, York Co, 10 Jun (JGJ) were at a site where breeding occurred in 2007; nesting is rare in the RWB.

**Western Grebe:** Good numbers were reported through Jul on major bodies of water in the west half of the state; best count was the 220-225 on LM 26-30 Jul (SMa, MW). Numbers begin to build at places like Merritt Res and LM in late Jul as young birds are able to fly.

**Clark's Grebe:** At least 4 were reported on LM and LO during the period (D&MM, LE, GD); this species breeds there in small numbers. The only other report was of one in Hayes Co 2 Jun (WF), presumably a tardy migrant.



Nebraska's third record of Wood Stork was documented by this photograph taken at Boyer Chute NWR, Washington County, 4 Jun 2014, by Margaret Delaitre (original photo lightened by WRS).

**Wood Stork:** Nebraska's third record was documented with a cell phone photo taken as the bird wandered across a road at Boyer Chute NWR, Washington Co, 4 Jun (MD, photo). There were reports as well from Minnesota and Kansas around the same time. Regarding the Kansas bird, Ed Raynor commented on KSBIRD: "The Wood Stork at Marais Des Cygnes is likely a post-breeding individual from Central America. Unlike the rather endangered, sedentary

population in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, Wood Storks that annually arrive at Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi's catfish and crawfish aquaculture operations are known to come from colonies in Mexico and other Central American colonies. They spend mid-summer to early fall at these bountiful operations and some even winter along the coast."

**Brown Booby:** Nebraska's first booby of any species was a Brown, photographed at a private lake development, Hanson L, in southern Sarpy Co 28 Jun-1 Jul (JB photo, fide DC, fide JR, fide CNK, fide MB). The photos identify the bird as of the expected Atlantic Ocean subspecies *Sula leucogaster leucogaster*.



This Brown Booby, Nebraska's first, was at Hanson Lake, Sarpy Co, 28 Jun-1 Jul and photographed by Joan Bergeron.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** Reports were routine for this common northern and western summer resident, uncommon summer visitor elsewhere.

**American White Pelican:** The 140 at Conestoga L, Lancaster Co, 13 Jun (JC, SS) was a good summer tally; high counts of summer wanderers (mostly non-breeding imms) are 310-420. Breeding does not occur in Nebraska.

**American Bittern:** This species probably breeds at Harvard Marsh in years with good water conditions; this year, 4-8 were present during the period (MW).

**Least Bittern:** This species may occur in good numbers in the southeast in wet years; there were several reports: 1-3, "a family" (JC, SS), were at Jack Sinn 2-16 Jul (m. ob.), and singles were at 3 other locations, Harvard Marsh 13 Jul (MW), Wilkinson WMA, Platte Co, the same day (TJW), and Bluestem L, Lancaster Co, 25 Jul (CWo).

**Great Blue Heron:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer visitor.

**Great Egret:** Less common in the west and rare in the Panhandle in mid-summer, one was in Lincoln Co 20 Jun (TJW), and 3-4 were at LO 19-30 Jul (J&MW, AL).

**Snowy Egret:** None were reported of this uncommon statewide summer visitor.

**Little Blue Heron:** None were reported of this uncommon statewide summer visitor, rare west.

**Cattle Egret:** There were about 15 reports scattered over the eastern and central parts of the state, best count only 12, at HCR 17 Jun (TJW). Westerly, where uncommon, were singles at North Platte 20 Jun (TJW) and CLNWR 18 Jun (JV).

**Green Heron:** Two were northwesterly at Arcadia Diversion Dam WMA, Custer Co, 29 Jul (WF); breeding can occur over most of the state but is rare north of the Platte River Valley in the western half of the state.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** Reports were routine for this uncommon common statewide summer resident, locally common Sandhills.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron:** None were reported of this rare summer visitor in the south-central and southeast.

**Glossy Ibis:** Despite 6 reports in spring, there were no summer reports.

**White-faced Ibis:** This species has nested in the RWB 9 times since 2001, including 2 attempts this summer, but none have been shown to be successful (JGJ). This is likely due to drying up of the nest areas. Some 50 adults and several nests were found at Troester WPA, Hamilton Co, 2 Jul, but the attempt was abandoned by 10 Jul (JGJ), and about 20 were at Harvard Marsh 7 and 20 Jul, where it was "certainly breeding" (MW), but no outcome was reported. One flew over Spikerush WMA, York Co, 25 Jun (TG), for no obvious reason.

**Turkey Vulture:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident and summer visitor.

**Osprey:** Nesting has been attempted in recent years at LM, but without success; a single bird was in the area 13 Jun (JGJ) and 19-26 Jul (KK, J&MW, MW). An attempt at a new location in Scotts Bluff Co was on a tall light pole in Lacy Park, Scottsbluff, where an adult was on the nest 13 Jul but none were seen two weeks later (KD). There have been attempts at Riverside Park, Scottsbluff, and Winters Creek in recent years, none apparently successful. A single in the GPD area through the period (DT) and another at Merritt Res, Cherry Co, 18 Jun (MR) may have been un-mated birds. One in Antelope Co 5 Jun (DT) was likely a late migrant. Late dates are (were) 4-5 Jun.

**Mississippi Kite:** The breeding population at North Platte added a second site (TJW), an encouraging development. Breeding continues at Ogallala, with best count 4-6 on 25 Jul (SMa) and at Benkelman, where 3 were seen 21 Jun (MW). Two were found at the Chase Co courthouse in Imperial where birds were present in 2013 (LE), also encouraging. Thus there are now 4 sites in western Nebraska where breeding is continuing. Breeding began in Ogallala in 1991, but at the other 3 sites only in the last few years.

**Bald Eagle:** The continuing success of this species in Nebraska was described in the website [outdoornebraska.ne.gov/wildlife](http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/wildlife). There were 90 active nests in the state in 2011 and more in 2012.

**Northern Harrier:** An adult with a recently-fledged young bird in Boone Co, east of the usual breeding range, 19 Jul (JGJ) may have hatched elsewhere; nesting can occur anywhere in the state but is most common in the north-central.

**Cooper's Hawk:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** The only report was of one over FF 30 Jul (ARy); this is a traditional nesting site, but there were no further reports that might have indicated nesting this summer.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** The Birchwood St, North Platte, pair had fledged 2 young by 24 Jul (TJW); this site has been active back to 2008, with varying success. Westerly was one in Sioux Co 19 Jun (LE); such westerly reports have increased in recent years, but are still scarce.

**Swainson's Hawk:** Reports were routine of this fairly common western and central summer resident.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** Following spring reports of birds in the east showing characters of Red-tailed (Krider's) Hawk, one in Thomas Co 14 Jul (MAR) was nearer the expected northwest area of the state where this form probably breeds regularly in small numbers.

**Ferruginous Hawk:** A nearly-fledged juv was on a nest in Dundy Co 14 Jun (JGJ); this is about on time, as most young are fledged by mid-Jul.

**Golden Eagle:** Reports were routine of this uncommon western resident.

**Virginia Rail:** One was at Spikerush WMA, York Co, 15 Jun (JK); there are only a few nesting records for the eastern RWB, as well as some summer records such as this one.

**Sora:** Reports were routine for this fairly common, locally common, statewide summer resident.

**American Coot:** Reports were routine of this common, locally abundant, statewide summer resident.

**Sandhill Crane:** A belated breeding report was from the Hutton Ranch, Rock Co, where in 2013 2 chicks were fledged but one was found dead, and the fate of the other was unknown (RK fide WM). This is the 3rd breeding record from that area (2006, 2008, 2013). The 3rd summer report from the Loup drainage was of 3 apparent ads photographed flying along the Middle Loup River near Arcadia, Valley Co, 15 Jun (AP); breeding may have occurred near Burwell in 1995, but was unconfirmed. Three at Rowe Sanctuary 18 Jul (CV) may have halted migration; there are about 20 summer records of apparent non-breeders.

**Black-bellied Plover:** None were reported of this uncommon spring and fall migrant; late and early dates are 14-21 Jun and 25-28 Jul.

**Snowy Plover:** A bird seen at Tamora 18 May (JGJ) was likely the same bird still there 15 and 17 Jun (JK, MW), when it probably moved to Marsh Duck 17-21 Jun (JGJ, LE). This is only the 3rd RWB record for Jun-Jul.

**Semipalmated Plover:** One of only 3 records for the state 13 Jun-3 Jul was of 2 at Tamora 21-24 Jun (SMa photo, RMa, MW). It is hard to say if they were coming or going. This is only the 10th overall record for Jun.

**Piping Plover:** Reports were from traditional breeding locations at LM, western Douglas Co, and Cedar Co (m. ob); best count was the 8 at Mile 807 on the Missouri River in Cedar Co (AM).

**Killdeer:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Mountain Plover:** None were reported of this rare southern Panhandle summer resident.

**Black-necked Stilt:** A less-than-annual migrant east of the RWB, one was in Lancaster Co 6 Jun (LE). The only RWB reports were of singles at Shypoke

WMA, Seward Co, 22 Jun (JGJ) and Troester WPA, Hamilton Co, 2 Jul (JGJ), fewer than in recent years.

**American Avocet:** As many as 8 were at Tamora through 29 Jun (m. ob.) and 1-3 were at Marsh Duck through 21 Jun (JGJ, SMa, RMa). Although there are a few breeding records for the RWB, no evidence for such was noted at these locations. One in Sarpy Co 13 Jul (NR) was about on time for first fall arrivers.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** Although an uncommon breeder statewide, few nests are documented. An ad with a brood was in York Co 10 Jul (JGJ), and 2 ads and 2 fledged young were at Two Rivers SP, Douglas Co, 25 Jun (SMa). The 21 at Conestoga L, Lancaster Co, 28 Jul (MW) was a good count; high counts are 30-61.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** One in Butler Co 1 Jul (CD) was rather early; early dates are 24-25 Jun.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** Reports were routine for this common statewide migrant.

**Willet:** Easterly for the date was a single in Rock Co 14 Jun (WF); this is primarily a western Sandhills breeder.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** Reports were routine for this common statewide migrant.

**Upland Sandpiper:** The 37 on the Sumner BBS route in Dawson Co 29 Jun (LR, RH) was a good count; high counts are (were) 27-40.

**Long-billed Curlew:** Easterly were one in Brown Co 13 Jun (WF) and 2 at Hutton Ranch, Rock Co, 1 Jun (CM, TE). Eastern limits of the Sandhills breeding range resemble those of Willet.

**Marbled Godwit:** A low-density breeder in northern and northwestern Nebraska, reports were of one near Smith L, Sheridan Co, 5 Jun (CNK), and 3 in northern Garden Co 12 Jul (KS). The latter birds and 5 at LO 26 Jul (MW) were likely migrants; migration begins around 20 Jun, as exemplified by one at Tamora 29 Jun (MW).

**Stilt Sandpiper:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide migrant, common central.

**Sanderling:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide migrant.

**Dunlin:** None of this uncommon easterly spring and fall migrant were reported. Migrants are not unexpected into Jun, but do not appear in fall until Sep.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** Three at Tamora 22 Jun (JGJ) and one still there 29 Jun (MW) were tardy; there are only 5 reports between 20 Jun and 9 Jul. These were likely another example of suspended migration.

**Least Sandpiper:** Tamora hosted singles, likely the same bird, 17 and 24 Jun (MW); there are 6 records between 10 and 20 Jun, likely all of birds suspending migration.

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** Like Semipalmated Sandpiper, this is a late migrant in spring. Last reported were rather late: 4 at Tamora 21 Jun (SMa, RMa) and 2 at Marsh Duck the same day (LE). Late dates are 21-23 Jun.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** Only the 4th state record for Jun was one at Tamora 17 Jun (MW). One there 26 Jul (JGJ) was rather early; it may have been the same bird that was reported 17 Jun.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** This is another species that migrates well into Jun; late dates are 19-21 Jun. Two at Marsh Duck 21 Jun (LE) and 2 at Tamora 24 Jun MW)

were rather late. There are 5 reports 24 Jun-4 Jul, presumably resulting from suspended migration.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** Migrants are still numerous into Jun; last reported were 2 at Tamora 15-17 Jun (MW, JK) and 3 at LM 13 Jun (JGJ); late dates are 18-19 Jun. One in Lancaster Co 8 Jul (MW) was rather early; early dates are 2-4 Jul.

**Western Sandpiper:** None were reported of this rare statewide spring migrant.

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** Two in Sherman Co 2 Jun (CNK) are the first Jun record for Nebraska and latest on record, by only 2 days however. Late dates are (were) 28-31 May.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** One in the Panhandle 12 Jul (KS photo) was the earliest documented fall record; early dates are (were) all 13 Jul.

**Wilson's Snipe:** Reports were routine for this uncommon northern and western summer resident.

**American Woodcock:** None of this uncommon eastern summer resident were reported.

**Wilson's Phalarope:** As many as 15 were at Tamora through 29 Jun (MW, m. ob.), and one was at Marsh Duck 17 Jun (JGJ). At Tamora, 2 juvs were present 24 Jun (MW), indicating successful breeding. Breeding is sporadic in the eastern RWB; this is about the 16th such record since 1996.

**Franklin's Gull:** Reports were routine for this abundant statewide spring and fall migrant and uncommon summer visitor.

**Ring-billed Gull:** Reports were routine for this abundant statewide spring and fall migrant and fairly common summer visitor.

**California Gull:** A few summer at LM, and fall migrants arrive during Jul; numbers are usually low, however. The only reports were of 2 there 14 Jul (JGJ, MB) and an ad on 26 Jul (MW).

**Herring Gull:** None were reported of this uncommon statewide summer visitor.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** The only report was of a molting 3rd cycle bird at Merritt Res, Cherry Co, 23-25 Jul (SMa photo). This species is primarily a spring and fall migrant in Nebraska; this record is only the 5th in the period 15 May-25 Jul.

**Least Tern:** Most of the numerous reports were from known breeding locations on the Platte, lower Niobrara, lower Loup, and lower Elkhorn river systems. Elsewhere, an ad and 2 basic or imm birds were at Arcadia Diversion Dam, Custer Co, 29 Jul (WF), where the species is not known to breed.

**Caspian Tern:** Previously, records were least numerous in mid-summer, in the period 11 Jun-15 Jul, but this year there were four such records: 3 Jul GPD (AM), 10 Jul BOL (LE), 13 Jul LBN (TJW), and 14 Jul LM (JGJ, MB).

**Black Tern:** Reports were routine for this common statewide spring and fall migrant, locally common summer resident.

**Common Tern:** An alternate ad at Tamora 21 Jun (SMa photo, RMa) was rather late, as was another in Cherry Co 18 Jun (MR); late dates are (were) 18-21 Jun.

**Forster's Tern:** One at FF 10 Jun was rather late; late dates are 10-11 Jun. There were 3 reports of even later birds: singles at North Platte 16 Jun (LE), HCR 17-18 Jun (TJW), and LBN 21 Jun (LE). The LBN report is one of only about 20 in the southeast in the period 12 Jun-3 Jul.

**Rock Pigeon:** Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

**Eurasian Collared-Dove:** Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

**White-winged Dove:** Following the 4 spring reports involving 4-5 birds, this summer saw an additional 8 reports from locations not reported in spring from Central City westward, involving 9-10 birds (m. ob.). A group of 4 at the University of Nebraska, Kearney, 11 Jun (LR, RH) continued through the period, with 2 half-grown young present 10 Jul (LR, RH). This appears to be only the 3rd proven breeding record, although there are several reports suggestive of breeding.

**Mourning Dove:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident, uncommon west.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** There were an encouraging 8 reports statewide (m. ob.) for this species; reports have become fewer in recent years.

**Barn Owl:** Rare in the east, one was in Nemaha Co 16 Jun (CNK). Remarkable was the report of 9-12 birds in 2 family groups using holes about a mile apart in a canal embankment between Roscoe and Paxton 25 Jul; 2 ads and 2-3 young were at one hole and 2 ads and 3-5 young were at the other (RMa). Also indicative of a good food source were the 7 fluffy young in a grain bin in Lincoln Co 16 Jun (TJW).

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** Reports were routine of this common statewide resident.

**Great Horned Owl:** Reports were routine of this common statewide resident.

**Burrowing Owl:** Four broods were in a prairie dog town about 4 miles south of Sutherland Res, Lincoln Co, 4 Jul; brood counts were 7, 1, 5, and 2, along with 4 ads seen (SS, JC). None were reported east of Valentine and Lincoln Co.

**Barred Owl:** Reports were routine of this fairly common eastern resident.

**Long-eared Owl:** None were reported of this rare statewide resident.

**Short-eared Owl:** None were reported of this rare statewide resident.

**Common Nighthawk:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Common Poorwill:** This species breeds eastward through most of the Niobrara River Valley; it was reported at Hutton Niobrara Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary, Rock Co, 1 Jun (CM).

**Chuck-will's-Widow:** The 2 reports were both from ICSP; 3-4 birds were reported 12 Jun (JR) and another 3 Jul (BP).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will:** A nest containing an egg and a chick was photographed at ICSP 3 Jul (KL photo, fide JGJ), only the 6th documented nesting for Nebraska.

**Chimney Swift:** Reports were routine for this common eastern summer resident, uncommon west.

**White-throated Swift:** The 10 at WHNC 17 Jun (LE) was a good tally for the location; highest counts, 13-40, are from Scotts Bluff NM, Scotts Bluff Co.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** A fem in a Scotts Bluff Co yard 23 Jul (KD) was preceded in the same yard by a pair that spent the summer of 2013 there. One was westerly at Grand Island 21 Jul (RB), possibly a very early migrant; early dates are 22-24 Jul west of the breeding range. See Broad-tailed Hummingbird account.

**Black-chinned Hummingbird:** A male photographed at a feeder at LM 29 Jun (J&GB) is Nebraska's 4th record, all in 2012-2014. This species is expanding its summer range northward on the western Great Plains and more records are expected, along with likely breeding.

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird:** As expected, singles were in the DeLara yard near Mitchell, Scotts Bluff Co, another hummer magnet, 22 and 25 Jul (KD) and at WHNC 18 Jul (MAR). Juanita Whittecar, whose yard is in extreme eastern Dawes Co some 10 miles southeast of Chadron, took a series of excellent photos of the summering hummers in her yard. She posted on eBird a photo taken 28 May of a presumed female Ruby-throated, which Marshall Iliff subsequently re-identified as a Broad-tailed, only the 2nd documented spring record for Nebraska.

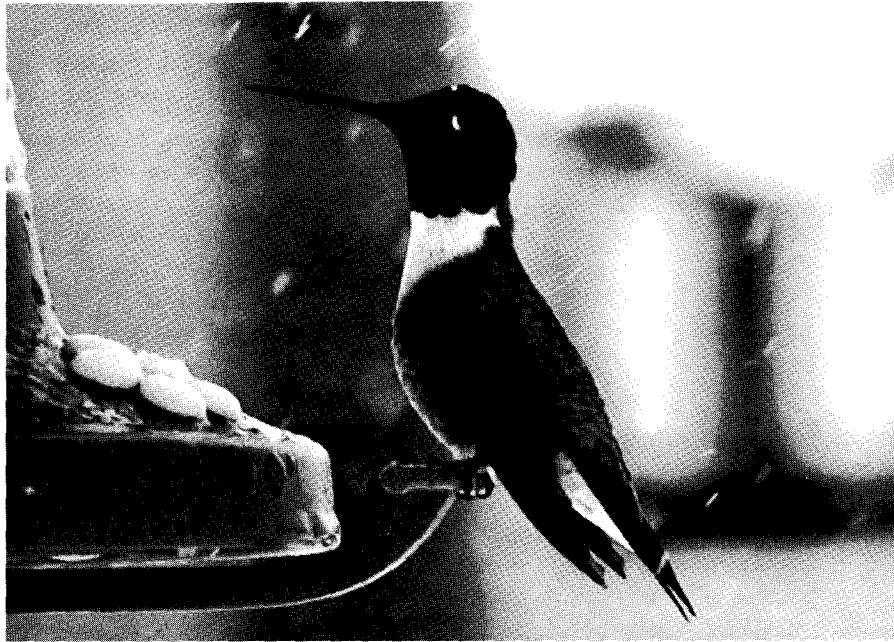


This Black-chinned Hummingbird, Nebraska's 4th, was at a L McConaughy feeder during the last week of June 2014, photographed here on 29 June by Jay Belsan.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird x Broad-tailed Hummingbird:** Extraordinary was the presence of a pair of presumed Ruby-throateds in a yard a few miles southeast of Chadron, in extreme eastern Dawes Co. Juanita Whittecar, the observer, sent a large series of photos to WRS in an attempt to confirm the presence through summer of a pair of Ruby-throateds or possibly a pair of Broad-taileds. Although a female Broad-tailed was first seen 22 May, it apparently did not stay, as the photos did not confirm its presence or that of a male Broad-tailed during the summer. However, the series of photos, taken 6 May-9 Jul (JW), did show a female Ruby-throated, and a male that superficially resembled a Ruby-throated. However, the photos of the male showed some



unexpected features for Ruby-throated, notably the Broad-tailed-like pointed outer primary. Several of the photos were sent to Sheri Williamson at the Southeastern Arizona Bird Observatory, who confirmed, based on several features, that the male bird was almost certainly a hybrid of Ruby-throated and Broad-tailed, only the second documented record of an inter-generic hybrid with Ruby-throated. This male hybrid appeared 6 May and was present until 10 Aug (JW).



This hybrid Ruby-throated Hummingbird x Broad-tailed Hummingbird, identified by Sheri Williamson of the Southeastern Arizona Bird Observatory, apparently only the second example of an inter-generic hybrid involving Ruby-throated Hummingbird, occurred with a female Ruby-throated Hummingbird in extreme eastern Dawes Co; it was first seen 6 May 2014, photographed (here) 8 May by Juanita Whittecar, and remained until mid August.

**Rufous Hummingbird:** Six were in the DeLara yard near Mitchell, Scotts Bluff Co: an ad male 22 Jul and 2 ad males and 3 ad fems 25 Jul (KD); another was in an Oshkosh yard 23-25 Jul (LJ), and a fem was at WHNC 22 Jul (AV).

**Calliope Hummingbird:** Four were reported, 2 as expected in Scotts Bluff Co 25 and 27 Jul (MW, KD), and one at a well-known hummingbird magnet, the Belsan feeders at LM 25-26 Jul (J&GB, SMA; photos). This is the 8th record east of the Panhandle.

**Belted Kingfisher:** Reports were routine for this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Lewis's Woodpecker:** The small group near Coffee Park, Sioux Co, continued, although with 5 sightings of only single birds 7-21 Jun (RSg, LE, SM).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident, less common westward.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** Reports were routine of this common eastern and central resident, rare Panhandle.

**Downy Woodpecker:** Reports were routine of this common statewide resident.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** Reports were routine of this fairly common statewide resident.

**Northern Flicker:** Reports were routine of this common statewide resident.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** This species has been established and breeding at FF since 1999; this year a pair was feeding 2 juvs there 8 Jun (JC, SS). Expansion and consolidation continues in the Little Blue River Valley; one near Hebron 23 Jun (LR, RH) is the westernmost record in the Little Blue River Valley. Source birds for this expansion appear to be from the south in Kansas; both Blue Rivers (and the Republican River) drain into the Kansas River near Manhattan, KS. No evidence exists for expansion westward from the Missouri River Valley (Big and Little Nemaha Rivers, Platte River).

**American Kestrel:** Reports were routine of this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Peregrine Falcon:** Reports were routine of this local resident (Omaha, Lincoln).

**Prairie Falcon:** Reports were routine of this uncommon western resident.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** Last reported was at FF 10 Jun (EB); late dates are 14-16 Jun.

**Western Wood-Pewee:** Reports were routine for this common western summer resident.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** Reports were routine for this common eastern summer resident.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** The distinctive "che-bunk" call was heard at ICSP 1 Jun (WRS), rather late; late dates are 1-4 Jun.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** Until recently, summer reports from FF have been sporadic; this year 1-2 were there through at least 20 Jun (CNK, RS, BW). In recent years at least one has been found each year at WP; one was singing there 10 Jun (LE).

**Alder Flycatcher:** The only report was of one at FF 1 Jun (CBr); last dates are in early Jun.

**Willow Flycatcher:** Reports were routine of this uncommon statewide summer resident.

**Least Flycatcher:** This species probably breeds in the extreme north, including the Pine Ridge (WM) although documentation of breeding is lacking. Cottonwoods are a favored breeding habitat; one in such habitat at Fort Robinson, Sioux Co, 3 Jun (CNK) may have intended to summer or was merely a migrant. However, one at Fort Niobrara NWR, Cherry Co, 18 Jun (AA), two at Smith Falls SP, Cherry Co, 18 Jun (AA), and one at Scottsbluff SL 9 Jul (GQ) may have been nesting, although the Scottsbluff bird may have been an early migrant. Early dates for fall migrants are in mid to late Jul.

**Cordilleran Flycatcher:** Reports were as expected in the western Pine Ridge (RSg, LE, MR), and of interest was one calling near the WHNC 27 Jul (MW), where breeding occurred in 2003 but reports have been sporadic since. This bird may

have summered there, as there are no fall records of presumed migrants in Jul; all are in Aug-Sep.

**Eastern Phoebe:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Say's Phoebe:** Near the eastern edge of the summer range in the south were singles in Dawson Co 29 Jun (LR, RH) and Furnas Co 11 Jul (WF). One in Nance Co 26 Jun (RSt) was easterly; recent years have seen a few records in the Platte and Loup drainages. The 4 nestlings in a nest in Antelope Co 24 Jun (RSt, MR) were possibly a second brood.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident, less common westward.

**Cassin's Kingbird:** Reports were routine for this common northwestern summer resident.

**Western Kingbird:** Of two nests on power poles in Papillion, one had 4 nestlings 15 Jul 2014 (L&BP); this is rather late for nestlings.

**Eastern Kingbird:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** Now a regular but rare summer resident in the south-central and southeast, a nesting pair was near Hebron 23 Jun (LR, RH).

**Loggerhead Shrike:** Reports were routine of this fairly common statewide summer resident.

**Bell's Vireo:** Reports were routine of this locally common statewide summer resident.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** Reports were routine of this fairly common eastern summer resident.

**Plumbeous Vireo:** Reports were routine of this uncommon Panhandle summer resident.

**Warbling Vireo:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Pinyon Jay:** This species is rarely reported in summer and is a secretive breeder in the northwest. The only report was from a feeder regularly used by this species in Morrill Co, where around 20 birds attend during the summer (CH).

**Blue Jay:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Black-billed Magpie:** As usual in recent years, the news is mixed; only 2 were seen on a 4-day western Nebraska trip, and those were on 19 Jun at Smiley Canyon, Sioux Co (LE). A family group of 8 was in Snell Canyon, Lincoln Co, 8 Jul (TJW); none had been found in the cedar canyons in Lincoln Co on 453 count points in 2013 (TJW). Scotts Bluff NM is a consistent site; up to 5 were there through the period (m. ob.).

**American Crow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Horned Lark:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Purple Martin:** The westerly colony at Benkelman had "numerous" birds 13 Jun (JGJ) and 15 on 21 Jun (MW). Three at Fort Niobrara NWR, Cherry Co, 6 Jul (CW), were only the 2nd record west of Ainsworth in the Niobrara River Valley. Two at Broken Bow SL 29 Jul (MW) were northwesterly. Staging begins in late Jul at favored locations such as Omaha and Lincoln Saline Wetlands NP, Lincoln; 850 were at the latter 29 Jul (MW).

**Tree Swallow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident, less common west.

**Violet-green Swallow:** Reports were routine of this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Bank Swallow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Cliff Swallow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Barn Swallow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Black-capped Chickadee:** Reports were routine of this common statewide resident.

**Tufted Titmouse:** Reports were routine of this common eastern resident.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** One in conifers at North Platte 5 Jul (LR, RH) was out of place for the date; early fall migrants appear in late Jul.

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** Reports from areas where the species is somewhat uncommon in summer came from Dawson Co 1 Jun (WF) and 29 Jul (WF), Buffalo Co 5-6 Jul (WF), and Custer 29 Jul (WF). Although the species breeds throughout the Platte and North Platte River Valleys, numbers decline significantly west of Hall Co, and reports from the western Loup drainage are also scarce.

**Pygmy Nuthatch:** In 2008 this species extended its Pine Ridge and Wildcat Hills breeding range some 100 miles to Steer Creek Campground, McKelvie NF, Cherry Co (DH), and this year a pair was nesting at the NNF, Thomas Co, 18 Jun (MR), a distance of some 150 miles from Steer Creek Campground.

**Brown Creeper:** One singing in pines at Steer Creek Campground, Cherry Co, 19 Jun (MR, JV) was away from the known Niobrara River Valley and Pine Ridge breeding areas.

**Rock Wren:** Reports were routine for this fairly common western summer resident.

**House Wren:** Surveys of burned areas at ICSP 20 Jun indicated that removal of understory has essentially eliminated this species in the interior forest, not a surprising outcome (WRS).

**Sedge Wren:** Most migrants pass through by early Jun and returning birds (some of which attempt to breed) arrive in mid-Jul. Birds present from early Jun through mid-Jul may attempt to breed, but breeding has not often been documented in this time period; this year there were several reports, but none with breeding evidence: 3 were at Shoemaker Marsh, Lincoln, 18 Jun (JK), 2 in Lincoln Co 23 Jun (TJW), one in Stanton Co 1 Jul (WF), and 1-3 at Jack Sinn 4-7 Jul (TG).

**Marsh Wren:** Birds singing eastern and western song types both occur in Nebraska as summer residents; easterns east of a line from O'Neill southward around the east edge of the Sandhills but including the Rainwater Basin, and westerns in the rest of the state. Two easterns were at Wood Duck WMA, Stanton Co, 1 Jul (WF) and westerns were in Rock and Loup Cos 14 Jun (WF). As with Sedge Wren, some birds return in Jul and may breed; first such arrivals, where there had been no summering birds, were at Harvard Marsh 13 Jul (MW), and in the eastern RWB 19 and 26 Jul (JGJ).

**Carolina Wren:** Westernmost reported was at Fort Niobrara NWR, Cherry Co, 6 Jul (CWi); there are scattered records of non-breeding singles through most of the state except the northwest forested areas. Westernmost breeding to date was a pair nesting in Gothenburg 7 Jun (MP fide JGJ); nesting has occurred at HCR and McCook.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** This species has expanded throughout most of the state in recent years, but is still rare to uncommon in the Sandhills and along the Niobrara River in central Nebraska; singles were at Valentine 21 Jun (MR) and Fort Niobrara NWR, Cherry Co, 22 Jun (MR).

**Eastern Bluebird:** Reports were routine of this fairly common statewide summer resident, less common westward.

**Mountain Bluebird:** Reports were routine of this fairly common western summer resident.

**Swainson's Thrush:** None were reported; migration lasts into Jun in northwest Nebraska.

**Wood Thrush:** Reports were routine for this locally common eastern summer resident.

**American Robin:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Gray Catbird:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident, less common west.

**Northern Mockingbird:** Good numbers now occur in grassland areas in the southeast; a BBS route in Nemaha and Pawnee Cos 16 Jun counted 12 (CNK).

**Sage Thrasher:** Fall migration gets under way in late Jul; singles were rather early in Kimball Co 24 Jul (CW) and in Scotts Bluff Co 27 Jul (MW); early dates are (were) 19-25 Jul.

**Brown Thrasher:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**European Starling:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Cedar Waxwing:** Reports were routine of this uncommon statewide summer resident.

**Chestnut-collared Longspur:** Reports were routine of this common western, fairly common northern, summer resident.

**McCown's Longspur:** Reports were routine of this fairly common western Panhandle summer resident.

**Ovenbird:** For the 4th consecutive summer and 6th overall, beginning in 2009, 2 were present and singing in the Chester Island WMA, Lincoln Co, area 1 Jul (TJW); there are several mid-summer Platte River Valley records, and although likely, breeding is unproven. Breeding is also likely at NNF, Thomas Co, where 7 were recorded 18 Jun (MR).

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** There are very few records west of the Missouri River Valley; only the 3rd was one at Rose Creek WMA, Jefferson Co, 22 Jun (JC, SS). John Carlini and Shari Schwartz continued their study of this species along Stone Creek in PRSP, locating 4 territories there, all of which successfully fledged young, as well as another on Decker Creek in the park. Ads were feeding 3 nestlings 7-8 Jul on a Stone Creek territory, presumably a re-nesting, as the birds usually depart in late Jul-Aug (JC, SS). An ad was carrying food 14 Jul, and 5 juvs were still present on 2 territories as late as 28 Jul (JC, SS).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** Presumably a late migrant was one at PRSP 4 Jun (JC, SS).

**Prothonotary Warbler:** At the FF breeding site on Great Marsh this year, 2 fledglings were seen 21 Jul (RS).

**Tennessee Warbler:** None were reported; last dates are 10-11 Jun.

**Mourning Warbler:** Last reported was a male in Omaha 2 Jun (JR); last dates are 12-15 Jun for this late migrant.

**Kentucky Warbler:** Three territories were located at PRSP and 1-2 birds were reported at FF for the period (m. ob.); the species has summered for a few years at least at both locations, as well as at ICSP, where 10+ were counted on surveys in early Jun (WRS).

**Common Yellowthroat:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**American Redstart:** This species breeds in the Pine Ridge, but there are only a few summer records farther south in Scotts Bluff Co; in recent years there have been reports from the L Minatare area, this year one on 12 Jun (RSg), but there was no evidence of breeding.

**Cerulean Warbler:** None were reported; there were 3 spring reports 7-19 May.

**Northern Parula:** A presumed stray migrant at Fort Robinson SP, Sioux Co, 3 Jun (CNK) was the 18th spring Panhandle record. Also westerly was one in Hayes Co 2 Jun (WF).

**Yellow Warbler:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** One in Monroe Canyon, Sioux Co, 7 Jun (KD, RSg) was 6th-latest for spring. This species is a statewide migrant in spring.

**Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler:** Reports were routine of this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

**Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler:** A tardy male at PL 15 Jun (JC, SS) tied the latest spring date on record.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** 1-2 were reported in FF through 8 Jun (BW, MW, JC, SS), where the species summers. There are very few reports elsewhere, but one reported at Four Mile Creek WMA, Richardson Co, 11 Jun (CB) would be the first summer record away from FF and more likely was a stray migrant.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** This species occurs in summer regularly east in the Platte River Valley to Buffalo Co, where one was seen 6 Jul (WF). Reports in the east are few, although recent years have seen an uptick; one at ICSP 1 Jun (SMA) was certainly one of 2 at the same location 30 May (JR).

**Spotted Towhee:** Easternmost reported was in Nance Co 4 Jun (WF), near the east edge of the hybrid zone; phenotypically "pure"-looking birds of Spotted or Eastern Towhee may occur in the hybrid zone.

**Eastern Towhee:** Mirroring the situation with Spotted Towhee within the hybrid zone were single Easterns in Hayes and Frontier Cos 2 Jun (WF); there are few records of such birds west of there in the Republican River Valley.

**Cassin's Sparrow:** Recent years have seen an increase in records and range in Nebraska, likely related to extensive drought in the southwest United States. Nebraska reports included sightings as far east and north as Lincoln and Cherry Cos. In Lincoln Co, one was found in a sand-sage area a few miles south of North Platte 11 Jun (TJW) and 2 were there 21 Jun (MW photo). There were reports from two locations in Cherry Co; one was recorded at Valentine NWR 5 Jun (MS fide JGJ) and another was seen just south of McKelvie NF 15 Jun (MS fide JGJ). These appear to be the first records for Cherry Co, and Lincoln Co is

the easternmost county where this species has been found. In its Dundy Co stronghold, 13 were found on a BBS route there 13 Jun (JGJ).

**Chipping Sparrow:** This species is uncommon but increasing slowly in the southwest as a breeding bird, usually first noted in conifers planted around residences. One was in Frontier Co 2 Jun (WF), but none were reported from the southern row of counties west of there. It is also increasing in the cedar canyons in southern Lincoln Co, where it is spreading away from residences (TJW).



This Cassin's Sparrow was photographed by Michael Willison 21 Jun 2014 in a sand-sage arca a few miles south of North Platte, Nebraska, where the species has been found previously. This is the easternmost known location for this species in the state.

**Brewer's Sparrow:** Reports were routine of this uncommon western Panhandle summer resident.

**Field Sparrow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident, rare Panhandle.

**Vesper Sparrow:** Reports were routine of this common northern and western summer resident, uncommon east, rare south.

**Lark Sparrow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident, less common south and east.

**Lark Bunting:** Easternmost reported were singles in Dawson Co 29 Jun (LR, RH) and in Lincoln Co 4 Jul (JC, SS); these sightings are not unexpected at those locations, although summering there is sporadic.

**Savannah Sparrow:** A singing bird a few miles south of Mitchell 25 Jun (CR) was in an area where suitable habitat exists (WM). This species breeds in a few widely-scattered locations in northern Nebraska.

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Reports were routine of this common statewide summer resident.

**Henslow's Sparrow:** Reports were from 3 locations favored by this species: up to 4 were at Burchard L SRA, Pawnee Co, 31 May-13 Jun (SMa, MW photo, SQ); 2-3 were at SCP during the period (KP, m. ob.); and one was on Platte River Whooping Crane Trust property in Hall Co 1 Jul (JJa), where the species has been present in previous summers.



This cooperative Henslow's Sparrow was photographed by Michael Willison at Burchard L SRA, Pawnee Co, 31 May 2014.

**Song Sparrow:** This species has been slowly expanding its range south and west from the south side of the Platte River Valley in recent years, but is still scarce or absent in summer in the far southwest. Reports this summer outlining the



current southerly edge of the range were from Hayes, Frontier, and Harlan Cos (TJW, WF).

**Swamp Sparrow:** Reports were routine of this locally common north-central and northeastern summer resident.

**Dark-eyed (White-winged) Junco:** None were reported; this is a fairly common northwestern summer resident.

**Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco:** A fem present for a "few weeks" at a feeder at the GPD Visitor Center through 30 Jul (DT) provided Nebraska's first record for the period 23 Jun-30 Aug.

**Summer Tanager:** Westerly was a fem seen and heard calling just south of North Platte 30 Jun (WB), only the 6th summer record away from the Missouri River Valley.

**Scarlet Tanager:** One at Redbird WMA, Holt Co, 25 Jun (RSt) was near the western edge of the summer range along the Niobrara River.

**Western Tanager:** Reports were routine of this fairly common northwestern summer resident.

**Northern Cardinal:** Reports were routine for this common eastern and central resident, rare and local Panhandle.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** Reports were routine for this common eastern summer resident, less common westward.

**Black-headed Grosbeak:** One in Valley Co 14 Jun (WF) was at the eastern edge of the range in the Loup Drainage, and another in Keya Paha Co 13 Jun (WF) was near the eastern edge of the Niobrara River Valley range. Summering birds occur east to Hall Co in the Platte River Valley and Harlan Co in the Republican River Valley.

**Blue Grosbeak:** Reports were routine for this common western summer resident, less common eastward.

**Lazuli Bunting:** Reports were routine for this fairly common western summer resident.

**Indigo Bunting:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident, uncommon west.

**Painted Bunting:** A male and a possible fem or juv were near Hebron, Thayer Co, 19 Jun (DA); a subsequent search there did not locate the birds although the habitat was suitable for this species (JC, SS). This is the 13th documented record for Nebraska, although more might be expected as this species expands its range in northeastern Kansas.

**Dickcissel:** After a major influx into the cedar canyons of southern Lincoln Co 2010-2011, numbers declined in 2012-2013, but recovered this summer, although not to the 2010-2011 levels (TJW). None were reported in the Panhandle.

**Bobolink:** Reports were routine for this common northern breeder, uncommon and local south.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** Reports were routine for this common, locally abundant, statewide summer resident.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** Two in Hitchcock Co 2 Jul were in a Conservation Reserve Program brome field during a wet year (TJW), apparently only about the 6th record from this often dry part of the state, including counties south of the Platte River Valley and west of Webster Co.

**Western Meadowlark:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird:** Reports were routine for this locally common statewide summer resident, less common south.

**Brewer's Blackbird:** Reports were routine for this fairly common Panhandle summer resident.

**Common Grackle:** Late summer flocks form as soon as juveniles are fledged; one such flock was in Omaha 9 Jul (MJR).

**Great-tailed Grackle:** There are few reports from the southwest; one was in Dundy Co 13 Jun (JGJ).

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Orchard Oriole:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Bullock's Oriole:** This species apparently reaches the eastern edge of its summer range in Keith Co, although most sightings there are likely of introgressants with Baltimore Oriole. Reports of phenotypically pure Bullock's were of a fem in an Ogallala yard in summer (2013, JO) and a "possible fem" at the Beltran feeders near LM along with 3 apparent "hybrids" 26 Jul (SMa photo). The photos of the "possible fem" are convincing as a fem Bullock's Oriole (WRS).

**Baltimore Oriole:** Reports were routine for this common eastern and central summer resident, rare Panhandle.

**House Finch:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**Red Crossbill:** This species often breeds rather early, and small flocks may wander considerable distances during summer. Breeding is not known at NNF, Thomas Co, where a group of 7, including a juvenile being fed by an adult, as well as 4 fly-overs, all on 18 Jun, were recorded, all being Type 2 (MR), the expected Nebraska breeding type. The presence of 2 at Steer Creek Campground, Cherry Co, 18 Jun (MR) and one at Fort Niobrara NWR, Cherry Co, 6 Jul (CWi) may have presaged the appearance one far to the east for the date in Dixon Co 13 Jul (JJ).

**Pine Siskin:** Breeding is known at NNF, Thomas Co, where 2 were "together" 18 Jun (MR). The only other report was of 2 at Wildcat Hills SRA, Scotts Bluff Co, 27 Jul (MW), where breeding also occurs.

**Lesser Goldfinch:** This species is now well-established in the Wildcat Hills around WHNC; as many as 6 were there through the period (TG, m. ob.). Unexpected was one 27 Jul at the Hoffman feeder in southern Morrill Co (MW), famous for its large attendance of Pinyon Jays.

**American Goldfinch:** Reports were routine for this common statewide summer resident.

**House Sparrow:** Reports were routine for this common statewide resident.

## Stomach Content Analysis of Recent Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) Specimens from Nebraska

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### Introduction

The Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) is a circumpolar bird of prey that breeds in extreme northern latitudes, including Canadian and Alaskan tundra. During winter months, some immature and non-breeding birds disperse south. North American birds may travel to southern Canada and northern parts of the United States, and in some extreme cases as far south as Oklahoma and Texas (Parmelee 1992). Although not fully understood, these irruptive events may be caused by the abundance of prey in northern Canada and Alaska (Parmelee 1992).

Prey typical of Snowy Owls are small mammals (e.g. lemmings and hares) of their home range and an occasional bird from a variety of species including waterfowl (Parmelee, 1992). Research on prey items selected by birds outside of breeding range in North America primarily includes ducks and grebes in southwest British Columbia (Campbell and MacColl 1978), voles in Montana (Detienne et al. 2008), and mice and voles in southern Alberta and Michigan (Boxall and Lein 1982, Chamberlin 1980, respectively).

Over the past century, several irruptions of Snowy Owls have been recorded in Nebraska, most notably during the winters of 1917-18, 1954-55, and 2011-12 (Jorgensen et al., 2012). The most recent of these irruptions, during the winter of 2011-12, produced the largest number of confirmed Snowy Owl sightings in Kansas and Missouri, possibly explained by the increased ease of communication through the use of mobile technology in the general public (Robbins and Otte 2013).

Once reaching areas as far south as Nebraska, Snowy Owls typically suffer high rates of mortality, possibly due to lack of prey species, disease, or anthropogenic factors (Kerlinger and Lein 1988, Meade 1942). During the 2011-12 irruption, several carcasses were donated to the University of Nebraska State Museum (UNSM) and provided a source for examination of body condition and diet. Also included was one carcass donated to UNSM during the following winter, 2012-13.

In Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas, 379 Snowy Owl sightings were confirmed by researchers at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, University of Kansas Biodiversity Institute, and the Kansas State Research Extension (Jorgensen et al. 2012, Robbins and Otte 2013). However, sex, age class, and diet information was only recorded for Missouri and Kansas birds. The University of Nebraska State Museum prepared seven specimens salvaged during this time and recorded external measurements. Several more specimens were salvaged but location and other data were not recorded and not included in this analysis. The primary objective of this study was to examine evidence of diet in Snowy Owl fatalities in Nebraska in the winters of 2011-12 and 2012-13.

### Methods

All Snowy Owl specimens were salvaged via NGPC personnel, except one that was salvaged by Labeledz under the UNSM salvage permit. All data resulted from consistent protocol of study skin preparation in the Zoology Division at UNSM. Careful observation of body condition, including fat level (Winker 2000), condition of muscle mass, and signs of disease were also recorded (Table 1). Additional determination of age was accomplished using Pyle (1997) and Seidensticker et al. (2011). Where possible, cause of death of each individual was determined and noted. A permanent museum catalog number was assigned to each finished specimen.

Gut contents were saved from individuals (2) where food items were present. The bolus of food material was carefully removed and weighed. The bolus was placed in a 95% ethyl alcohol solution for preservation. At a later date the bolus was removed from alcohol and sorted into identifiable part groupings (i.e., bony material, fur/feathers, etc.) and further retained in alcohol. The bony materials were later soaked in water and cleaned of extraneous tissue by use of dermestid beetles (*Dermestes maculatus*).

Bones from the stomach contents were considered the primary source identification of the prey items. Bones were identified by direct comparison to the extensive collection of vertebrate skeletal remains at UNSM. Bone and bone fragments were identified to bone element (e.g., cervical vertebrae) and to animal Class (e.g., Aves) by general comparison. Once Class was determined, specimens of similar size were examined until a match was found. Once a match was found, all similar species within that group were compared and often multiple individuals within a species were compared to separate individual variation from species variation.

Non-bony material from the bolus was retained in alcohol. Subsets of feathers and other soft materials were removed from alcohol, washed in water, and dried. The dried material could then be used for comparison to soft parts of possible prey species.

## Results

Of the seven owls prepared during this study, one was too badly damaged to record any internal information. Of the six remaining specimens, four had no gut contents and exhibited a range of degraded muscle mass and emaciation. The remaining two had identifiable remains in their digestive system and seemingly healthy body conditions (Table 1).

The first of these two birds (ZM-18695, male) was found dead on 22 Feb 2012 in Harlan County, Nebraska. This bird had very heavy subcutaneous and visceral fat content. It appeared to be very healthy and had a full stomach (bolus weight: 42.72g).

Whole and fragmented bones found within the bolus of ZM-18695 include: seven whole/partial cervical vertebrae, five distal pieces of scapula, one fragment of the posterior area of keel from sternum, six rib fragments, and about ten miscellaneous bone fragments. The bones were determined to be avian, and narrowed to waterfowl (Anseriformes) by structural anatomy and size comparisons. Further comparisons eliminated all waterfowl except Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) but a confident identification could not be made. However, large numbers of vermiculated feathers were also found in the bolus. These feathers compared favorably to Northern Pintail and did not compare favorably to Mallard. Thus we determined this prey item to be a male Northern Pintail.

**Table 1:** Measurement details of *Bubo scandiacus* within this study. Average weights of Snowy Owls with moderate fat deposits are  $1806 \pm 30$  g for males and  $2279 \pm 57$  g for females (Parmelee, 1992). Imm = immature, Ad = adult, HY = hatching year, SY = second year, TY = third year.

UNSM Catalog Number	ZM-18463	ZM-18464	ZM-18471	ZM-18693	ZM-18695	ZM-18696	ZM-18697
Date Salvaged	7 Jan 2012	11 Jan 2012	4 Jan 2012	Jan 2012	22 Feb 2012	12 Dec 2012	5 Mar 2012
County	Hall	Buffalo	Adams	Dodge	Harlan	Saunders	Adams
Sex	Male by plumage	Male by plumage	Male	Male	Male	Female	Male
Weight (g)	N/A	1304.4	1020.6	951.5	1779.5	1431.3	810.0
Total Length (mm)	N/A	574	565	525	560	607	505
Wing Chord (mm)	N/A	379	385	405	390	440	380
Bolus weight (g)	None	None	None	None	42.72	36.21	None
Age	Imm/SY	Imm/SY	Imm/SY	Ad/TY	Imm/SY	Imm/HY	Imm/SY
Body Condition	No Fat	No Fat	No Fat	No Fat	Heavy Fat	No Fat	Emaciated

The second specimen (ZM-18696, female) was found dead in Saunders County, Nebraska, on 12 Dec 2012. This bird appeared less healthy, with no visible fat, but was not emaciated (bolus weight: 36.21g). Whole and fragmented bone pieces found include: one atlas (1st cervical vertebrae), odontoid process of axis (2nd cervical vertebrae), three other cervical vertebrae, one rib, numerous tracheal rings, and two miscellaneous bone fragments. Visual comparison confidently determined bone remains having the closest similarity to those of Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*). Further comparison of large numbers of feathers from the stomach found all to be white, with several having rusty-colored tips. These rusty colored feathers closely resembled soil-stained breast feathers of UNSM snow goose skin specimens.

#### Discussion

The findings of this study illustrate the variable diet of Snowy Owls when dispersed to southern locations. Interestingly, former research showed the primary food source of wintering Snowy Owls in Montana (Detienne et al. 2008) to be voles (*Microtus montanus*, *M. pennsylvanicus*), which are similar in size to the lemmings of their breeding grounds. This is intriguing because many small mammals, including the same species of vole (*M. pennsylvanicus*), inhabit much of Nebraska (Genoways et al. 2008). However, the only study specifying food items of irruptive owls in this region found an American Coot (*Fulica americana*) and Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) (Robbins and Otte 2013). In our study as well, the only stomach contents discovered were bird species. One study found that Snowy Owls are capable of existing solely on avian prey, but only where no small mammals are known to be present (Williams and Frank 1979).

This discovery raises questions regarding diet preference of irruptive Snowy Owls in Nebraska. While small mammals are the primary food source of Snowy Owls, there are instances of larger prey items being taken to meet energy requirements (Boxall and Lein 1989). It is not uncommon for these owls to take large birds, like ptarmigan and ducks, in their arctic breeding range (Parmelee 1992). Within their wintering range in Canada, they have been known to take sea ducks (e.g., Common Eider, *Somateria mollissima* and Long-tailed Ducks, *Clangula hyemalis*) (Robertson and Gilchrist 2003). Chevalier (1988) reports Snowy Owls taking avian prey up to the size of American Black Ducks (*Anas rubripes*). However, little work has been done to find diet preference of birds involved in irruptive movements.

In this study the food item (Snow Goose) of sample ZM-18696 was larger than any other prey item reported in North American wintering or irruptive Snowy Owls. In fact, of the literature listed above, no prey items reported were larger than 1300 grams. The mean weight of ten Nebraska Snow Goose samples from UNSM is 2365 grams, making this potentially the largest reported food item for wintering or irruptive Snowy Owls in North America.

It is unknown in this instance if the consumption of waterfowl was opportunistic or targeted. Both samples were salvaged near large bodies of water known to harbor great numbers of waterfowl: Harlan County Reservoir (ZM-18695) and Lake Wanahoo (ZM-18696). Snowy Owl specimens that are salvaged in this state are often starving or diseased, so it is possible that the birds were in such great need of food that they resorted to a more energetically expensive option. However, it is curious that no bird studied in Nebraska, Kansas, or Missouri during the 2011-12 irruption showed evidence of small mammal consumption. It is also possible that the two individuals in this study could have scavenged instead of hunting the Northern Pintail and Snow Goose. Scavenging is rare in Snowy Owls but has been witnessed in British Columbia (Patterson, 2007).

Possible confounds in this study could have arisen due to the small sample size available. Furthermore, bias could be present in the sample because the specimens donated to UNSM were found dead, and not actively collected by researchers. This leads to the possibility that only the owls that were already weakened had died and were consequently found. Healthier birds could be present in the state, but have managed to find sufficient prey and avoid lethal anthropogenic forces.

Further research avenues in this topic could include a more specific study of the diet preference of a larger sample of irruptive Snowy Owls in the Great Plains, based on field collections and observation. Furthermore, geographic tracking of the movements of Snowy Owls throughout the year might reveal more accurate clues to the motivation of southward movement and consequential adjustment in prey selection, or variation in Snowy Owl movements as a result of global climate change.

#### Acknowledgements

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## Contact Zone of the Eastern and Western

## Marsh Wrens in Nebraska Revisited

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Across the northern and coastal United States and southern central Canada the Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) is a widespread breeder in cattail-dominated marshes. Although it has long been considered to be polytypic based on subtle plumage characters (Parkes 1959; Phillips 1986), it was not until Kroodsma (1989, 2005) demonstrated that there was a dramatic break in the primary (song) vocalization in the northern Great Plains that anyone suggested more than one species was involved. In 1986, as part of the delineation of the breeding distribution of both vocal types, Kroodsma (1988; see map therein) audio recorded wrens at nine localities in Nebraska. He determined that breeding eastern (*Cistothorus p. palustris*) birds are primarily restricted to the northeastern corner of the state, whereas westerns (*C. p. paludicola*) were found in the western two-thirds of the state north of the Platte River. He found no wrens in an approximate 100 km wide corridor, although at two localities he found both song types (hereafter referred to as Eastern and Western subspecies; based on upcoming genetic work it will soon be recommended that these be elevated to species level; K. Barker, Robbins et al.). Twenty-five years later, in early June 2011, I reassessed the distribution of breeding Marsh Wrens in Nebraska.

### Methods

Using Kroodsma's (1988) 1986 data as a reference for sampling, I visited ca. 30 sites in roughly the eastern two-thirds of the state during early June 2011, with a few selected sites revisited in June 2014. With the exception of two sites, Crystal Cove Park, Dakota County (#13, Fig. 1) and Ericson Lake, Wheeler County (#6, Fig. 1), I surveyed all localities where Kroodsma recorded wrens, as well as a number of other areas (Fig. 1). At all but the Cherry County sites, I played prerecorded songs of both subspecies to elicit vocal responses. Audio recordings and voucher specimens were obtained for selected individuals, deposited at the Macaulay Library, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York (accessible online) and the University of Kansas Biodiversity Institute (accessible online via VertNet), respectively. Except where noted, the following localities where I recorded wrens are depicted in figure 1: 1) Valentine National Wildlife Refuge; 2) Ballards Marsh State Wildlife Management Area (SWMA); 3) Pony Lake; 4) Doolittle (=Overton) Lake; 5) Swan Lake; 6) Erickson Lake (see above); 7) Goose Lake SWMA; 8) private marsh along Elkhorn River between Ewing and Clearwater; 9) private marsh just north of Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park; 10) west of Niobrara in

Missouri River floodplain; 11) northern edge of Niobrara; 12) Wood Duck SWMA; 13) Crystal Cove Park (see above).

### Results and Discussion

My 2011 and 2014 surveys determined that the breeding distribution of the two subspecies has not changed in the subsequent 25 years since Kroodsma's 1986 assessment (Fig. 1). I did not find both subspecies at the two sites, Pony Lake (# 3, Fig. 1) and Doolittle (=Overton) Lake (# 4, Fig. 1) where Kroodsma (1988) had single Easterns at each lake among a total of 80 Westerns. I found only Westerns present at Pony Lake, and there was no appropriate wren habitat at Doolittle in 2011. However, to the east in 2011, I did record and collect at least 3 territorial Easterns among at least 22 territorial Westerns at Goose Lake SWMA, Holt County (solid star; Fig. 1). Genetic data on these samples will be published elsewhere (K. Barker, Robbins et al.). At this same site on 17 June 2014, only Westerns (n=33 territorial males) were recorded. This was the only site where I found both subspecies. In addition to the above variation between 2011 and 2014, at the northwestern corner of the Antelope County site (#9, Fig. 1), I recorded two pairs of Easterns in 2011, although none were present in June 2014 despite seemingly appropriate breeding conditions. There were a number of other sites that had prime breeding habitat (tall cattails, appropriate water levels), but no wrens (denoted with "x" in Fig 1). Thus as Kroodsma noted, there appears to be very little contact between these two subspecies in Nebraska.

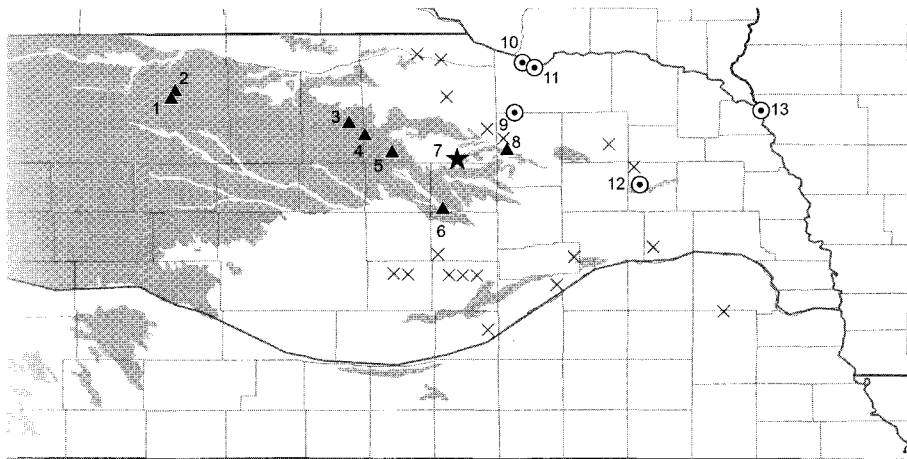


Fig. 1. Map of Eastern (circles) and Western (solid triangles) Marsh Wren breeding localities during June 2011 survey. Sites #6 and #13 were sampled only in the 1986 Kroodsma survey. Gray area represents the Sandhill landform. Solid star indicates the only locality, Goose Lake SWMA, where both were together. "X" indicates localities where no wrens were present. Details for locality numbers are in Methods.

Interestingly, the Western Marsh Wren's breeding distribution in Nebraska appears closely correlated with the Sandhills landform (gray area, Fig. 1), whereas that of the Eastern is primarily along the upper Missouri River floodplain. Complicating the generalization of the Eastern breeding distribution is the southward movement of wrens from mid-July through August where that subspecies reaches northeastern Kansas, southern Iowa, and northern Missouri to breed again (Robbins, unpubl. data). For example, although in 1986 Kroodsma (1988) recorded Eastern Marsh Wren at Wood Duck SWMA (#12, Fig. 1), the area lacked appropriate habitat during my 1 June 2011 visit. Nonetheless, two wrens were noted there in August 2011 (D. Heidt, pers. comm.). Moreover, despite seemingly appropriate habitat at Jack Sinn SWMA, Saunders/Lancaster Cos., I failed to find any wrens there in June 2011; however, T. Labedz found small numbers at this area in August 2011 and in subsequent years during the same period. Thus, at least in the extreme eastern part of Nebraska there appears to be a movement of wrens during the mid-July/August period as has been noted elsewhere (Robbins, unpubl. data).

#### Acknowledgments

Thomas Labedz was instrumental in facilitating this study. He, Walter Wehtje, and David Heidt provided information on the status of Marsh Wren at several sites. Mike Fritz and the Nebraska Game and Parks provided permits. Town Peterson produced the map.

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## 2013 (25th) REPORT OF THE NOU RECORDS COMMITTEE

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The functions and methods of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union Records Committee (NOURC) are described in its bylaws (NOURC 2010). The committee's purpose is to provide a procedure for documenting unusual bird sightings and to establish a list of all documented birds for Nebraska. Accidental and casual species for which the NOURC seeks documentation (NOURC Review List) can be found at the NOU website ([www.noubirds.org](http://www.noubirds.org)).

All records mentioned here are available to interested persons at the NOU archives at the University of Nebraska State Museum (UNSM), Lincoln, NE. Interested parties should contact the current NOU Librarian, whose address can be found in the latest issue of *The Nebraska Bird Review* (NBR).

### State List:

The "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska" was first published in 1988 (NOU 1988) and has been updated three times (NOURC 1997, 2004, 2009). The "Official List" has been appended twenty-three times: (Mollhoff 1989; Grenon 1990, 1991; Gubanyi 1996a, 1996b, 1996c; Brogie 1997, 1998, 1999, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009a, 2009b, 2011, 2012, 2013; Jorgensen 2001, 2002, 2003).

The American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds, Seventh Edition (1998) and its following supplements: (AOU: 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013) contain many taxonomic changes affecting North American birds.

The following summarizes all 2013 revisions by the AOU in regards to changes in scientific names and changes in assignments to family and order of species to the most recently published "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska: 2009" (NOURC 2009, [www.noubirds.org](http://www.noubirds.org)).

This report includes all accounts submitted during the 2013 calendar year covering 107 records with accession numbers 1500 -1606.

### Criteria for Accepted Records:

In order for a record to be accepted, a minimum of six votes in favor is required with no more than one dissenting vote (NOURC 2010). Records in the following categories are classified as accepted:

- I-S - a diagnostic, labeled specimen exists
- I-P - diagnostic, labeled photographic evidence exists
- I-R - a diagnostic, labeled recording exists

- II - three or more independently written diagnostic documentations of the same bird exist
- III - one or two independently written diagnostic documentations of the same bird exist

Each account of an accepted record includes a brief statement noting the species, class, date, location, and initial(s) of observers. This report summarizes all records accessioned in 2013, discusses any new additions to the state list, and reports any changes in firmness of data of Nebraska birds. Additionally, the list reflects changes in frequency of occurrence, as determined by the NOU Records Committee, which reviewed records of bird occurrences in Nebraska for 2004-2013. Frequency of occurrence is indicated by the following terms (NOURC 2009):

- Regular - acceptably reported in 9-10 of the past 10 years.
- Casual - acceptably reported in 4-7 of the past 10 years.
- Accidental - acceptably reported in 0-2 of the past 10 years.
- Extirpated - not acceptably reported in the past 50 year.
- Extinct - no longer found alive anywhere in the world.

The frequency of occurrence for any species that is acceptably reported in 3 or 8 of the last 10 years is discussed by the committee and placed in a category felt most appropriate by the committee.

With this report, the following changes are made to the "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska: 2009" (NOURC 2009).

#### **2013 Additions to State List:**

There was one new species added in 2013.

##### **Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*)**

The first NOURC accepted Hooded Oriole, discovered (SD) in Garrison, Butler Co., 25-28 May 2013 was well documented.

1. Two photographs (Class I-P, SD via JC) were received from the discoverer of the adult male bird, taken 26 May 2013. Accession # 1532.
2. Photographs (Class I-P, MAB) of the bird, 27 May 2013. Accession # 1533.
3. Additional photographs (Class I-P, PD) 27 May 2013. Accession # 1534.
4. A video (Class I-P, JGJ) taken 28 May 2013. Accession # 1536.

Insert Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*) after Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) on the "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska". Additional detailed information on this record can be found at: Gubanyi [NBR 81(4):161-164].

\*\*\* With this addition, the "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska" stands at **459** species.

**Changes Involving Nebraska Species Due to Taxonomic Revisions (AOU 2013):**

The Fifty-fourth supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds (AOU 2013) has effected the following changes to the "Official List of the Birds of Nebraska" ([www.noubirds.org](http://www.noubirds.org)).

1. Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) becomes *Calidris subruficollis*
2. Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) becomes *Calidris pugnax*
3. The sequence of species within the genus *Calidris* is changed to the following:
  - \* Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*)
  - \* Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*)
  - \* Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*)
  - \* Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*)
  - \* Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)
  - \* Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)
  - \* Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*)
  - \* Baird's Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*)
  - \* Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*)
  - \* White-rumped Sandpiper (*Calidris fuscicollis*)
  - \* Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Calidris subruficollis*)
  - \* Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*)
  - \* Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Calidris pusilla*)
  - \* Western Sandpiper (*Calidris mauri*)
4. The order Charadriiformes is reorganized as follows:
  - \* Family Recurvirostridae: (Stilts and Avocets)
  - \* Family Charadriidae: (Plovers)
  - \* Family Scolopacidae: (Sandpipers and Phalaropes)
  - \* Family Stercorariidae: (Jaegers)
  - \* Family Alcidae: (Alcids)
  - \* Family Laridae: (Gulls and Terns)
5. The sequence of species within the Family Mimidae (Thrashers and Mockingbirds) is changed to the following:
  - \* Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*)
  - \* Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*)
  - \* Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*)
  - \* Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*)
  - \* Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*)
6. Sage Sparrow (*Artemisiospiza belli*) becomes Sagebrush Sparrow (*Artemisiospiza nevadensis*).

Sage Sparrow has been split into Bell's Sparrow (*Artemisiospiza belli*) and Sagebrush Sparrow (*A. nevadensis*). Bell's Sparrow is found breeding in dry chaparral habitat in coastal and interior California, western Nevada, and south to

Baja California. Sagebrush Sparrow is found breeding in the Great Basin desert sagebrush area from interior Washington, eastern Oregon, southern Idaho, western Wyoming, and northwestern Colorado south to parts of Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. "Most if not all vagrant records of 'Sage Sparrow' in the central and eastern parts of North America pertain to Sagebrush Sparrow" (Retter 2013).

Based on the description of the bird and geographic likelihood, the one NOURC accepted (Class III) record of Sage Sparrow (Stage and Stage 1990) pertains to Sagebrush Sparrow.

7. The sequence of the three *Haemorrhous* finches is changed to the following:
  - \* House Finch (*Haemorrhous mexicanus*)
  - \* Purple Finch (*Haemorrhous purpureus*)
  - \* Cassin's Finch (*Haemorrhous cassinii*)

#### **2013 Changes in Frequency of Occurrence:**

1. Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) changed from Casual to Regular
2. Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*) changed from Casual to Regular

\*\*\* The NOURC no longer seeks documentation on the above two species.

#### **Pre-2013 Accepted Records**

##### **King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)**

1. An adult bird was observed and photographed (Class I-P, EH) in a wet meadow along the Missouri River, Richardson Co., 25 May & 02 June, 2010. Accession # 1523.

##### **Calliope Hummingbird (*Selasphorus calliope*)**

1. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, JB) on the south side of Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 31 August 2012. Accession # 1540.

##### **Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*)**

1. A video (Class I-P, MK) was received of a bird coming to a birdbath in Blair, Washington Co., 07 October 2012. Accession # 1506.

This constitutes the second NOURC accepted record for Acorn Woodpecker in Nebraska.

##### **Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)**

1. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, KH) in Omaha, Douglas Co., 28 December 2012. Accession # 1500.

**2013 Accepted Records:**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

1. A single adult was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Harvard WPA, Clay Co., 21 June 2013. Accession # 1545.

Brant (*Branta bernicla*)

1. An adult bird (of the taxon *B. b. nigricans*) was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Lake Hastings, Adams Co., 02 February 2013. Accession # 1507.
  2. An additional photo (Class I-P, MAB) was received of the above bird, observed 03 February 2013. Accession # 1509.
- This bird may be the same individual as Accession # 1392 (Brogie 2012), a sub-adult "Black" Brant photographed (PD) at Lake Hastings on 04 March 2011.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)

1. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Hultine WPA, Clay Co., 14 March 2013. Accession # 1522.

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*)

1. A single adult male was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at DeSoto NWR, Washington Co., 08 March 2013. Accession # 1521.
2. A male was photographed (Class I-P, PS) at Fontenelle Forest, Sarpy Co., 18 November 2013. Accession # 1586.
3. Photographs (Class I-P, JGJ) were received of a single bird at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 22 November 2013. Accession # 1596.

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

1. Photographs (Class I-P, JM, SM) were received of a single bird found at Standing Bear Lake, Douglas Co., 14 July 2013. Accession # 1547.

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)

1. A written description (Class III, LE) was received of two birds observed at Jack Sinn WMA, Saunders and Lancaster Cos., 21 August 2013. Accession # 1559.
2. A single adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Harvard WPA, Clay Co., 14 May 2013. Accession # 1600.
3. An adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Harvard WPA, Clay Co., 20 July 2013. Accession # 1601.

\*\*\* The NOURC no longer seeks documentation on this species.

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)

1. A written description (Class III, JY) was received of an adult bird observed below Fort Falls, along the Niobrara River, Cherry Co., 26 May 2013. Accession # 1541.



*Red Phalarope (Phalaropus fulicarius)*

A bird in winter plumage discovered (SB) at Lake Babcock, Platte Co., 12-17 November 2013 was well documented.

1. A photograph (Class I-P, PD) 12 November 2013. Accession # 1581.
2. A set of photographs (Class I-P, PR) 13 November 2013. Accession # 1583.
3. A photograph (Class I-P, KC) 17 November 2013. Accession # 1584.
4. A set of photographs (Class I-P, RD) 17 November 2013. Accession # 1585.

*Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla)*

1. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, JM, SM) at Lake North near Columbus, Platte Co., 19 May 2013. Accession # 1535.
2. A second winter bird was photographed (Class I-P, MW) at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 07 September 2013. Accession # 1590.

*Mew Gull (Larus canus)*

1. An adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) at the Alma sewage lagoons, Harlan Co., 20 March 2013 and may be the same individual as the February bird listed below. Accession # 1524.
2. Photographs (Class I-P, PD) were received a bird at Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 05 January 2013. Accession # 1556.
3. An adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at the Alma sewage lagoons, Harlan Co., 15 February 2013. Accession # 1557.

*Iceland Gull (Larus glaucoides)*

1. A first winter bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Lake Ogallala, Keith Co., 01 February 2013. Accession # 1508.

*Glaucous-winged Gull (Larus glaucescens)*

The third NOURC accepted record of this gull species was discovered (CG, JGJ) at Lake Ogallala, Keith Co., 16 February 2013 and was well documented. The "purity" of this third year bird was discussed by committee members and by several outside experts. The opinion of the majority was that the appearance of the bird was consistent with a "pure" Glaucous-winged Gull, rather than a hybrid bird.

1. A set of photographs (Class I-P, CG) taken by one of the initial observers. Accession # 1513.
2. A video (Class I-P; JGJ) taken by the second initial observer. Accession # 1514.
3. Additional photographs (Class I-P, MAB) from 23 February 2013. Accession # 1517.
4. A single additional photograph (Class I-P, PD) from 18 February 2013. Accession # 1602.

*Parasitic Jaeger (Stercorarius parasiticus)*

1. Photographs (Class I-P, SV) were received of a "grounded" bird found south of Chadron, Dawes Co., 02 September 2013. On 30 August, this area experienced wind gusts of 60 mph and 20 minutes of golf-ball sized hail resulting in a

7-inch-deep layer that may have contributed to temporarily incapacitating the bird. The jaeger was not relocated the following day. Accession # 1565.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)

1. A 13 September 2013 photograph (Class I-P, PD) was received of the following bird. Accession # 1566.
2. A photograph (Class I-P, MW) was received (by the initial observer) of a single dark plumaged juvenile discovered at Capitol Beach Lake, Lancaster Co., 11 September 2013. Accession # 1571.
3. A photograph (Class I-P, PR) of the above bird, taken 15 September 2013, was also received. Accession # 1597.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*)

The second NOURC accepted record of this species was an immature male discovered (MM via RH, LR) in Shelton, Buffalo Co., and well documented during its limited stay.

1. Photographs and a video (Class I-P, PD) taken 14-15 September 2013 provided excellent details to establish species identification. Accession # 1567.
2. A set of close-up photographs (Class I-P, PR) taken 16 September 2013 was also received. Accession # 1568.

Costa's Hummingbird (*Calypte costae*)

Multiple documentations were received of the second NOURC accepted record of this species.

1. A first year male was photographed (Class I-P, GB, JB) on the south side of Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 06 September 2013. Accession # 1561.
2. Additional photographs (Class I-P, KD) of the above bird, taken 07 September 2013. Accession # 1562.
3. A video (Class I-P, PD) from 06 September 2013. Accession # 1563.
4. A single additional photograph (Class I-P, PR) taken 18 September 2013. Accession # 1570.

Calliope Hummingbird (*Selasphorus calliope*)

1. A bird was photographed (Class I-P, KD) near Mitchell, Scotts Bluff Co., 30 July 2013. Accession # 1553.
2. An additional photograph (Class I-P, EA) was received of the above bird, 02 August 2013. Accession # 1554.
3. A photograph (Class I-P, KS) was received of a bird observed at the Iain Nicolson Nature Center, Buffalo Co., 30 August 2013. Accession # 1560.
4. Photographs (Class I-P, BD, KS) were received of an individual bird coming to a feeder in Kearney, Buffalo Co., 24 September 2013. Accession # 1575.
5. A first year male was photographed (Class I-P, KD) near Mitchell, Scotts Bluff Co., 29 August 2013. Accession # 1587.
6. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, PD) near Mitchell, Scotts Bluff Co., 29 July 2013. Accession # 1603.

*Acorn Woodpecker (Melanerpes formicivorus)*

1. Photographs (Class I-P, BA, DA) were received of a single bird observed at a suet feeder in Hayes Co., 15 & 16 June 2013. Accession # 1544.  
This documents the third NOURC accepted record for Acorn Woodpecker in Nebraska.

*Red-naped Sapsucker (Sphyrapicus nuchalis)*

1. An adult male was photographed (Class I-P, PD) in Banner Co., 21 September 2013. Accession # 1573.
2. A written description (Class III, JG) was received of a female bird observed in Banner Co., 22 September 2013. Accession # 1574.

*Hammond's Flycatcher (Empidonax hammondi)*

1. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, WRS) at Oliver Reservoir SRA, Kimball Co., 06 September 2013. Accession # 1564.
2. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) during the NOU Fall Field Trip in Kimball Co., 21 September 2013. Accession # 1572.
3. A second set of photographs (Class I-P, PD) of the 06 September 2013 bird was received. Accession # 1604.

*Dusky Flycatcher (Empidonax oberholseri)*

1. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) in Carter Canyon, Scotts Bluff Co., 15 June 2013. Accession # 1542.
2. A hatching-year bird was netted, banded, and photographed (Class I-P, MN) at Chadron State Park, Dawes Co., 24 September 2013. Accession # 1577.

*White-eyed Vireo (Vireo griseus)*

1. A bird in first winter plumage was photographed (Class I-P, SM) at Standing Bear Lake, Douglas Co., 04 October 2013. Accession # 1576.

*Steller's Jay (Cyanocitta stelleri)*

1. An adult bird was photographed (Class I-P, MS) in Gering, Scotts Bluff Co., 23 February 2013. Accession # 1591. This is likely the same bird photographed (MS) at this location on 18 October 2012 (Brogie 2013).

*Mountain Chickadee (Poecile gambeli)*

1. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, MS) in Gering, Scotts Bluff Co., 23 February 2013. Accession # 1592
2. A photograph (Class I-P, MS) was received of a bird present at the above location 23 October 2013. Accession # 1593.

*Bewick's Wren (Thryomanes bewickii)*

1. A written description (Class III, TJW) was received of a single bird observed at North Platte, Lincoln Co., 13 August 2013. Accession # 1595.

**Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*)**

1. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, PR) near Homer, Dakota Co., 31 January 2013. Accession # 1511.
2. A written description (Class III, WF) was received of a bird observed along the Niobrara River in Boyd Co., 24 February 2013. Accession # 1519.
3. A written description (Class III, WF) was received of a bird observed along Lodgepole Creek, east of Potter, Cheyenne Co., 10 November 2013. Accession # 1579.
4. A single bird was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Sutherland Reservoir, Lincoln Co., 11 November 2013. Accession # 1580.
5. Another photograph (Class I-P, MSS via TJW) was received of the Lincoln County bird (taken on the day of discovery), 10 November 2013. Accession # 1582.

**Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*)**

1. Photographs (Class I-P, PD) were received of one bird (in a group of 11) at Pawnee Prairie, Pawnee Co., 01 April 2013. Accession # 1599.

**Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*)**

1. A first year male was photographed (Class I-P, GB JB) on the south side of Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., early October 2013. Accession # 1578.

**Black Rosy-Finch (*Leucosticte atrata*)**

1. Several birds were photographed (Class I-P, PD) on Scotts Bluff National Monument, Scotts Bluff Co., 04 January 2013. Accession # 1501.

**Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*)**

1. A female was photographed (Class I-P, DG-C) coming to a feeder near Homer, Dakota Co., 17 January 2013. Accession # 1503.
2. An additional photograph (Class I-P, EMB) was received of the above bird, observed 28 January 2013. Accession # 1504.

**Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*)**

1. Photographs (Class I-P, JGJ) were received of an adult male at Scotts Bluff National Monument, Scotts Bluff Co., 26 July 2013. Accession # 1549.
  2. An adult "green-backed" male was photographed (Class I-P, PD) at Wildcat Hills Nature Center, Scotts Bluff Co., 15 June 2013. Accession # 1606.
- \*\*\* The NOURC no longer seeks documentation on this species.

**Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*)**

1. A female was photographed (Class I-P, MP) at a feeder in Blair, Washington Co., 05 February 2013. Accession # 1510.
2. A photograph (Class I-P, PR) was received of the above bird taken 18 February 2013. Accession # 1515.
3. An additional photograph (Class I-P, PD) was received of the above bird observed 22 February 2013. Accession # 1605.

**Unaccepted Records:**

Records in the following categories are considered unaccepted (NOURC 2010):

IV - probably correct, but not beyond reasonable doubt.

V - a record with insufficient evidence to support the identification claimed.

VI - a probable released or escaped bird or mistaken identification.

Each account of an unaccepted record includes a brief statement noting the species, class, date, location, and reasons for the committee's non-acceptance of the record.

**Unaccepted Records (Received in 2013):****Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*)**

1. A written description was received of a first year bird observed at Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 15 September 2013 and although possibly correct, the record lacked sufficient details for acceptance. Class IV. (5 III, 3 IV). Accession # 1569.

**Mew Gull (*Larus canus*)**

1. Photographs were received of a bird at Holmes Lake, Lancaster Co., 17 April 2013. Many committee members stated that the photographs provided were lacking in detail for a definitive identification to species. Class V. (2 I-P, 2 IV, 2 V, 1 VI, 1 Abstain). Accession # 1546.

**Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*)**

1. A single first basic bird was photographed at Sutherland Reservoir, Lincoln Co., 01 March 2001. Although the photographs provided were very suggestive of the species and possibly correct, they were lacking in quality for approval. Class IV. (5 I-P, 2 IV, 1 Abstain). Accession # 1543.

**Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*)**

1. An *Archilochus* sp. was photographed at a feeder near Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 28 July 2013. Most committee members believed the photograph provided did not sufficiently rule out the more likely Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*A. colubris*). Class V. (2 I-P, 4 IV, 2V). Accession # 1555.

**Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*)**

1. A description of a bird observed at Harvard WPA, Clay Co., 20 July 2013 was very suggestive of the species but lacked sufficient details to rule out a possible Cliff Swallow (*P. pyrrhonota*). Class V. (3 III, 2-IV, 3 V). Accession # 1548.

**Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*)**

1. A written description received of two birds observed fighting near Doane College, Saline Co., August 2012 was suggestive but lacked sufficient details for acceptance. Class V. (2 III, 3 IV, 3-V). Accession # 1538.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)

1. A single bird was observed by several individuals in Omaha, Douglas Co., for several days in late December 2012. However, the photographs received of this bird (taken 28 December 2012) lacked sufficient quality for acceptance. Class V. (2 I-P, 3 IV, 2 V, 1 Abstain). Accession # 1500.

Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*)

1. A written description was received of a bird observed at Scotts Bluff National Monument, Scotts Bluff Co., 16 July 2013 that was very suggestive of the species but lacked sufficient details for approval. Class IV. (4 III, 3 IV, 1 V). Accession # 1558.

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*)

1. Photographs and a written description were received of a single bird observed near Branched Oak Lake, Lancaster Co., 02 January 2013. Although the materials received were very suggestive of Hoary Redpoll, several committee members felt the record was lacking in sufficient details to absolutely rule out the possibility of the bird being a Common Redpoll (*A. flammea*). Class IV. (5 I-P, 3 IV). Accession # 1505.
2. A photograph of a single bird at North Platte, Lincoln Co., 18 January 2013 was suggestive but lacked sufficient details for approval. (4 I-P, 2 IV, 2 V). Accession #1551.
3. A set of photographs was received of a bird observed west of Burwell, Garfield Co., 18 March 2013 lacked sufficient details for approval (4 I-P, 3 IV, 1 V). Accession # 1552.

**Non-Review List Records Submitted in 2013 and Filed Without Votes:**

The following records are those of species not on the NOURC Review List. They have been accessioned due to other circumstances (out-of range, non-normal date of occurrence, unusual nesting record, etc.) and filed without NOURC votes.

Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*)

1. A photograph (PD) of a female bird observed at Scottsbluff sewage lagoon, Scotts Bluff Co., 19 February 2013 was filed. Accession # 1516.
2. A written description and video (JR) of an eastward bird observed at Carter Lake, Douglas Co., 02 March 2013 was filed. Accession # 1520.

Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)

1. A photograph (MAB) of two birds south of Creighton, Antelope Co., 25 April 2013 was filed. Reports of this species in Nebraska have declined in recent years. Accession # 1528.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

1. Photographs (SS) of a pair of birds nest-building near Summit Lake WMA, Burt Co., 08 June 2013 were filed. Accession # 1539.

This is the first documented nesting attempt for Osprey in eastern Nebraska in more than 100 years.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*)

1. Two photographs (MS) were received of an adult bird along Old Hill State Road in the Wildcat Hills, Scotts Bluff Co., 11 May 2013. Accession # 1594. There have been sightings of this species at this location in 2006, 2008, and 2012 (KD).

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)

1. A single adult bird was photographed (MAB) east of Niobrara, Knox Co., 13 April 2013. Accession # 1526.

This represents one of the very few records for this species in northeastern Nebraska.

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*)

1. A single bird was photographed (SM) west of Omaha, Sarpy Co., 13 April 2013. Accession # 1527.

This species is rarely encountered in eastern Nebraska.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

1. A second year bird was photographed (MAB) east of Niobrara, Knox Co., 21 May 2013. Accession # 1529.

This represents one of the very few records for this species in northeastern Nebraska.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*)

1. A single adult bird was photographed (MAB) northwest of Verdigre, Knox Co., 25 May 2013. Accession # 1530.

Although this species' status is still considered Regular in Nebraska, numbers of occurrences have dramatically declined in recent years.

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)

1. A single bird was photographed (MAB) in Winnetoon, Knox Co., 02 April 2013. Accession # 1525.

This species is infrequently encountered in eastern Nebraska.

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*)

1. A photograph (Class I-P, CK) was received of an adult male discovered (JR) in Omaha, Douglas Co., and present 29-30 July 2013. Accession # 1550.
2. A female/immature bird was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) in Lincoln, Lancaster Co., 20 November 2013. Accession # 1588.
3. An adult male in Lincoln was photographed (Class I-P, JGJ) later on the same day and at the same location as the above bird. Accession # 1589.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*)**

1. A photograph (JM) of a female bird in Hamilton Co., 19 May 2013 was filed. Accession # 1531.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*)**

1. A single bird of the western "Audubon's" (*S. c. auduboni*) race was photographed (MAB) below Lake McConaughy, Keith Co., 23 February 2013. Accession # 1518.

This represents the first winter record for this subspecies in Nebraska.

**Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*)**

1. A photograph (SO) was filed of a "late" bird at a feeder, in Omaha, Douglas Co., 30 November 2013. Accession # 1598.

**Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*)**

1. A photograph (PD) of a mid-winter bird observed in Carter Canyon, Scotts Bluff Co., 04 January 2013 was filed. Accession # 1502.

**Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*)**

1. A written description (JT) of a wintering bird observed in Omaha, Douglas Co., 12 February 2013 was filed. Accession # 1512.

**Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)**

1. An adult male was photographed (CJ) at Hideaway Acres, north of Crofton, Knox Co., 26 May 2013. Accession # 1537.

This species is infrequently encountered in eastern Nebraska.

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